

**Amendments to the claims:**

This listing of claims will replace the prior version, and listing, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended) A process for manufacturing L-Se-methylselenocysteine by reaction of chloroalanine methyl ester hydrochloride or chloroalanine hydrochloride or chloroalanine with methylselenol or its salts in a solvent, acidifying the reaction mixture after completion of reaction, isolating methylselenocysteine hydrochloride as a methanol solution, neutralizing the methanol solution with ~~an amine such as~~ triethyl amine to precipitate L-Se-methylselenocysteine.

Claim 2 (currently amended) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein the reaction is conducted under an inert atmosphere of nitrogen or argon.

Claim 3 (currently amended) A process as claimed in Claims 1 & 2 wherein methylselenol or its salt is produced by ~~reaction~~ reduction of dimethyldiselenide ~~is reduced~~ with a reducing agent chosen from sodium borohydride or hypophosphorous acid.

Claim 4 (currently amended) A process as claimed in claims 1, ~~2 & 3~~ wherein dimethyldiselenide is reduced at temperature range of 0° to +60° C[[,]]. ~~preferably between 0° to +10° C when sodium borohydride is used and preferably between 20° to +40° C when hypophosphorous is used~~

Claim 5 (currently amended) A process as claimed in Claims 1, ~~2, 3 & 4~~ wherein methylselenol or methylselenide salt is reacted with chloroalanine methyl ester hydrochloride or chloroalanine hydrochloride or chloroalanine at the temperature range of 0° to +50° C[[,]]. ~~preferably between 30° to +40° C~~

Claim 6 (currently amended) A process as claimed in Claims 1, ~~2, 3, 4 & 5~~ wherein the solvent employed is a mixture of dimethylformamide and water.

Claim 7 (currently amended) A process as claimed in Claims 1, ~~2, 3, 4 & 5~~ wherein the solvent employed is a mixture of acetonitrile and water.

Claim 8 (currently amended) A process for manufacturing DL-Se-methylselenocysteine wherein ~~L-Se-methylselenocysteine or D-Se-methylselenocysteine is racemized in acetic acid using an aromatic aldehyde such as benzaldehyde~~ which consists of treating and solubilizing L-Se-methylselenocysteine or D-Se-methylselenocysteine in acetic acid in the presence of small quantities of benzaldehyde in the temperature range 20-100° C, cooling the reaction mixture and filtering the precipitated product namely, DL-Se-Methylselenocysteine.

Claim 9 (withdrawn)

Claim 10 (withdrawn)

Claim 11 (withdrawn)